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RECEIVED

AUG 19 2016

August 18, 2016

MT Environmental Quality Council
PO Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620-1704

**LEGISLATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL
POLICY OFFICE**

RE: Notice to Public of Request for Release of Funds (NOI/RROF)
South Winds County Water and Sewer District (CWSD), Great Falls, Cascade County,
MT – Water and Wastewater Improvements Project

To Whom it May Concern:

The above referenced project has been awarded \$450,000 from the Montana CDBG program. The Montana CDBG program uses a Notice of Intent to Request Release of Funds (NOI / RROF) process.

The enclosed NOI/RROF for the South Wind CWSD water and wastewater project will be published in the Great Falls Tribune on August 23, 2016.

Sincerely,



Crystal Morgan
NCI Engineering Co.

Enclosure: NOI/ RROF

NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS (NOI/RROF)

August 23, 2016

Cascade County
325 2nd Avenue North, #111
Great Falls, MT 59401
(406)454-6810

TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, GROUPS AND PERSONS:

On or about *August 23, 2016*, Cascade County will request the Montana Department of Commerce to release funds under Title II of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act of 1990, as amended, for projects funded by the HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) program AND/OR under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, for projects funded by the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program for the following project:

PROJECT, TITLE OR NAME: *Cascade County – South Wind County Water and Sewer Project*

PURPOSE OR NATURE OF PROJECT: *Construct new water and wastewater facilities*

LOCATION: *Near Great Falls, Cascade County, MT*

ESTIMATED COST OF PROJECT: *\$3,755,000*

An Environmental Review Record documenting review of all project activities in respect to impacts on the environment has been made by Cascade County. This Environmental Review Record is on file at the above address and is available for public examination or copying, upon request.

Cascade County will undertake the project described above with Community Development Block Grant funds and/or HOME Investment Partnership funds provided by the Montana Department of Commerce. Cascade County is certifying to the Department of Commerce that Cascade County and Joe Briggs, in his official capacity as the Environmental Certifying Officer, consent to accept the jurisdiction of the federal courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to environmental reviews, decision-making, and action; and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The legal effect on the certification is that upon its approval, the County may use the HOME and/or CDBG funds, and the Department of Commerce will have satisfied its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 as delegated to the State of Montana through the 1981 Amendments to the Housing and Community Development Act.

The Department of Commerce will accept an objection to its approval of the release of funds and acceptance of the certification only if it is on one of the following bases:

- (a) The certification was not in fact executed by the responsible entity's Certifying Officer.
- (b) The responsible entity has failed to make one of the two findings pursuant to §58.40 or to make the written determination required by § 58.35, 58.47 or §58.53 for the project, as applicable.
- (c) The Responsible Entity has omitted one or more of the steps set forth at 24 CFR Part 58 subpart E of this part for the preparation, publication and completion of the EA.

(d) The responsible entity has omitted one or more of the steps set forth at 24 CFR Part 58 subparts F and G of this part for the conduct, preparation, publication and completion of an EIS.

(e) The recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by this part before release of funds and approval of the environmental certification by the Department of Commerce.

(f) Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR part 1504 has submitted a written finding that that project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality.

Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58) and may be addressed to the CDBG Program, Department of Commerce, Community Development Division, P.O. Box 200523, 301 S. Park Avenue, Helena, Montana 59620.

Objections to the release of funds on bases other than those stated above will not be considered by the Department of Commerce. No objection received after *September 7, 2016* will be considered by the Department of Commerce.

Joe Briggs
Cascade County Commissioner Chairman
Environmental Certifying Officer
325 2nd Avenue North #111
Great Falls, MT 59401